

Information about your water, drainage, wastewater and solid waste utility services.

Seattle Water Supply Indicators

February, 2006

Water Storage	●
Reservoir Inflows	●
Snowpack	●
Customer Use	●
Overall	●
● Good ● Fair ● Poor	

As of mid-February, our water supply situation and outlook remain good. Reservoir inflows and water storage levels in our mountain reservoirs remain good as we move through the winter season.

Snowpack accumulation in the Cedar watershed is 132 percent of average at 31.7 inches of snow water equivalent, and 119 percent of average at 33.5 inches in the S.F. Tolt watershed.

Water consumption from December 1 to January 31 averaged 108 million gallons per day (mgd). This average is 9 mgd less than the 117 mgd consumed during the same period last year and 17 mgd less than the average of 125 mgd used during the same period over the years 1994-2000.

Please visit www.savingwater.org to view the most current water supply indicators and learn more about using water wisely.



Seattle Spring Clean Celebrates 20 Years

Spring Clean marks its twentieth anniversary as the premier clean up event for citizens who want to help keep Seattle beautiful by cleaning up their neighborhoods. Dates of this year's event are April 1st through June 4th.

Past projects undertaken by citizens include picking up litter, weeding and restoring planting strips or traffic circles, storm drain stenciling, pruning bushes and painting out graffiti. Participants can receive free resources from Seattle Public Utilities including help in planning their event, tools, clean up bags, gloves, safety vests, plants and waste pick up services.

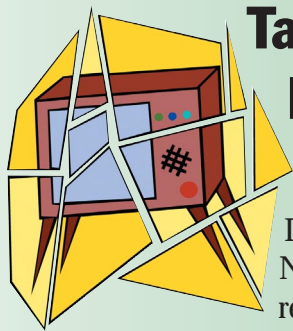
Spring Clean is a part of the Mayor's Clean and Green Initiative. Contact Mike Mercer at (206) 684-0570 or mike.mercer@seattle.gov for more information.

savvy gardener Classes Available

High water bill ... or crisp, brown lawn? There's a better choice! You can lower your bill and still enjoy a beautiful yard. Attend Savvy Gardener classes this spring to discover plant combinations for tough spots, techniques for replacing a thirsty lawn and practical ideas for low maintenance gardens. Look for our Savvy Gardener Class schedule by April 1st at www.savingwater.org. Classes start in April.

Water Systems Advisory Committee Seeks New Members

Are you interested in learning more about the water you use and having a voice in how it is managed? SPU's Water Systems Advisory Committee provides valuable input to Director Chuck Clarke on issues related to the regional water supply system including water supply, quality, conservation and rates. The committee is made up of citizen volunteers who meet monthly at the Seattle Municipal Tower in downtown Seattle. Parking, food and behind-the-scenes facility tours are provided. Contact Mike Mercer at (206) 684-0570 or mike.mercer@seattle.gov for more details.



Take it Back Network Reminder

Did you know that Northwest Washington residents will generate more than one million units of obsolete electronics this year alone? In fact, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that E-waste is growing two to three times faster than any other waste source such as paper or yard waste.

Electronic waste from discarded electronic products contains heavy metals and other hazardous materials in our environment. Therefore, Seattle residents and businesses are asked to recycle electronic equipment at authorized recycler locations that are part of a regional Take it Back Network.

Established in 1999, The Take it Back Network (TiBN) is a private sector group of retailers, repair shops, nonprofit organizations and recyclers who reuse or properly recycle electronic equipment. The program is a partnership between Seattle Public Utilities, King County, and Snohomish County solid waste agencies, with support from the King County Local Hazardous Waste Management Program. To learn more about TiBN or find member locations, visit www.takeitbacknetwork.org or call (206) 296-4466.

Did You Know . . .

SPU has launched another On-line Service Form called the Escrow Estimator. This form calculates estimated closing costs for SPU bills when property is being sold. Customers can access all the On-line Service Forms 24x7 via the web at: www.seattle.gov/util/Services/Billing/Manage_Your_Account/.

Aquatic Habitat Matching Grant Program

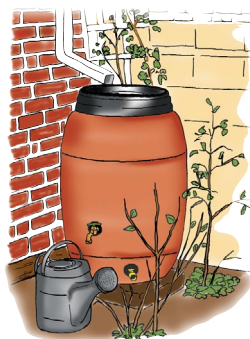


This new program provides funding to individuals, non-profit/community groups and businesses to support projects that improve, preserve and restore aquatic habitat in creeks or along creek, marine or lake shorelines.

To qualify for review, projects must:

- ◆ Involve private or public property within the City of Seattle
- ◆ Improve or prevent direct impact within or along creeks, or marine and lake shorelines affected by the City of Seattle's drainage system
- ◆ Match city resources 100 percent with community or private cash, non-City grant funds, volunteer labor, donated supplies or professional services, etc.

Grants, funded by Seattle Public Utilities, begin at \$2,000. The program is part of Mayor Nickel's Restore Our Waters initiative, a comprehensive plan to restore, protect and enhance the water bodies of Seattle. Application materials are available in April. For more details, visit www.seattle.gov/util/aquaticgrant or contact Kathy Minsch, Program Manager, at kathy.minsch@seattle.gov or 206-615-1441.



SPU Delivers Bins and Barrels at Low Cost

High quality compost bins and rain barrels are available this spring at great prices. You can also have them delivered to your door for a small additional charge.

Yard waste compost bins are \$25 (tax included) with a limit of one per customer. Food waste bins are \$25 each or two for \$40 (tax included) with a limit of two per customer. Rain barrels are \$59 (plus tax) with no limit on the quantity purchased.

Right now you can purchase a bin or barrel with a check or credit card by calling the Seattle Conservation Corps at 206-684-0190. For questions on how to use compost bins and rain barrels, call the Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline at 206-633-0224.

